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ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS IN HONDURAS

THE valleys of the Chamelecon and Oloa Rivers, the largest streams in Honduras, contain many interesting remains of past civilizations. On the Chamelecon are located the ruins of ancient Naco described in another article, which was at the time of the Conquest a flourishing city of many thousand inhabitants, while near San Pedro Sula there are numbers of mounds of interesting construction, occurring in groups and even singly.

The writer excavated in several of the latter upon the *fincas* of the American Consul, Dr. Mitchell, to whose interest and courtesy he is greatly indebted. They consisted solely of mortuary mounds, usually rising about 7 to 10 ft. above the plane of the surrounding valley, and were in most cases encircled by walls of stone, which in turn had slight masses of earth in front of them and are often used as impromptu quarries by the natives of to-day.

One of this description, measuring 58 ft. in width by 91 in length, was opened by means of a cut 5 ft. wide to the center of the mound and then a T drift on either side. The outer wall was composed of medium-sized, irregular blocks of stone brought from the distant river bed, and varied in thickness from one to two and a half feet. Here and there throughout the mound were encountered masses of burnt clay and one or two small culture symbols of slight importance, as obsidian flakes, broken clay whistles, etc. No bones, *ollas*, nor any building lines whatever were found. Unfortunately, the principal item of interest was a cave-in which carried a large mass of

earth,—on the top of which the writer was complacently sitting,—upon the laborers in the cut 8 to 9 ft. below; tools, men and earth were thrown into one heaving mass. Fortunately, no one was injured, though some probably were unduly startled.

About 200 ft. northwest another mound, 55 ft. in diameter, with practically no stone in it whatever, was excavated without any better results. However, one near-by, had a short time before been found to be particularly rich; the usual stone wall was penetrated, and in the center of the mound a vaulting of cleverly fitted rocks was encountered, which it took much skill to finally dislodge. When this was eventually accomplished, several jars, about one and a half to two feet high and one foot in diameter, were discovered, in which were a large number of cleverly carved stone objects—including a highly polished green mask of a decidedly negroid type and excellent finish; beads of jade and clay; a small face with a very peculiar treatment of the beard and an aquiline nose; a large bizarre stone figure in a sitting posture, and a few other pieces.



TERRA COTTA SEAL FROM PLAYAS DE LOS MUERTOS

>About 5 miles from San Pedro Sula there is a group of 8 mounds arranged in a circle 115 ft. in diameter, the inner diameter of which is 44 ft. and the average height about 8 ft. The writer worked upon one of these, measuring 40 ft. across, for several days with a large force of men. In the case of this mound the stone wall, which in most instances rose to a height of 3 or 4 ft. only, was continued so as to completely cover the entire mass, and on the sides was of great thickness. A number of mortuary remains were found here—broken pottery of a high type, numerous portions of human bones, which crumbled to pieces when exposed to the air, and which always occurred in a thin dark stratum of earth, obsidian knives and scrapers, and a terra cotta whistle. The pottery was also located in strata and usually in proximity to the human remains.

From all indications the age of these mounds is great; they in many cases show much wear, and a plain rise in the floor of the valley and the water



PLAYAS DE LOS MUERTOS OF THE CHAMELECON

level is indicated since their construction, probably brought about in the course of time by the downpours of the rainy season and the consequent eroding of the surrounding hills.

But perhaps the most interesting remains in this section are those of the Playas de los Muertos, or "Shores of the Dead," on the Chamelecon and the Oloa rivers. In the latter case, by far the better known, they extend irregularly over a distance of several miles from Santa Ana to Santiago, being sections of the river's banks where the stream has apparently passed through ancient burial grounds. Human bones, mingled with stone images, pottery, whistles, and many other culture symbols, project from the banks often as far as 20 ft. below the surface and frequently below the present average water level.

The writer examined 3 of these playas, and conducted excavations in the most prominent one near San Miguel, not under the most inviting circumstances, however, as he had to sleep in a room with 8 men and 4 women not including other members of the domestic retinue, such as hens, hogs, dogs, etc., during the time operations were in progress. A huge alligator that made frequent excursions around the hut after any stray pig left outside was, however, temporarily barred.

Two skulls were found, both facing the west, and each from 15 to 18 ft. below the surface, and in a very poor state of preservation. Despite the fact that a calcareous mass had formed over one, the back portion of the

head was crushed in. Both were apparently dolichocephalic, comparatively small and with a fair facial angle. A deer skull was also found near by.

Whistles of baked clay abounded, and were fashioned very cleverly into many animal and other fanciful shapes. In the writer's collection are specimens representing the human bust with one hand placed on the head, the elbow being used as a mouthpiece; a seated monkey with a number of stops for varied notes; an otter with a loose ball inside to give numerous variations; an alligator's head upon a log and many other similar forms.

The *ollas* found in these *playas* are of many sizes and range from the common rough *olla* for culinary purposes to the finely finished and decorated one of yellow ware carefully *lævigated* of all *dégraissant*, and covered with striking symbols and figures of Mayan type. Effigy vases are also found, but are usually undecorated, though at times they contain incised patterns upon



EXCAVATION IN MORTUARY MOUND, VALLEY OF THE CHAMELEON

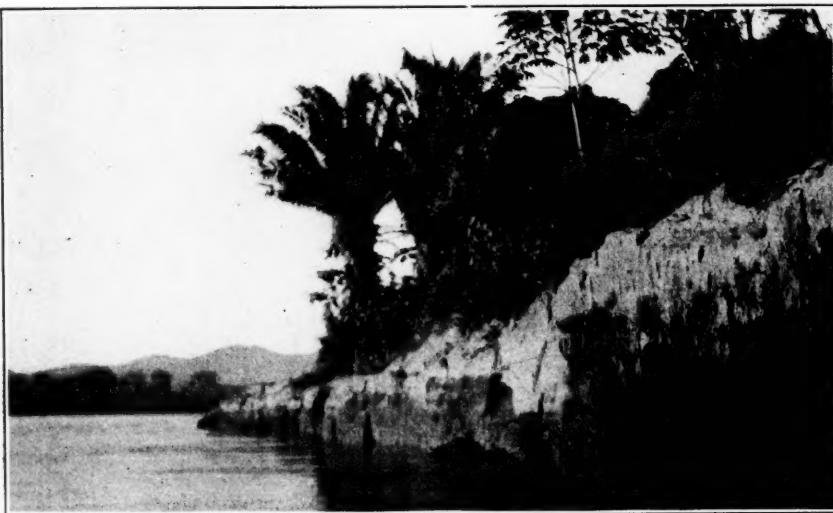
their surfaces. It is, however, but comparatively rarely that an entire specimen is discovered, as there seems to be a far greater amount of broken pottery here than is usually encountered. Whether this condition is owing to the frequent seismic shocks or to the immediate presence of water, it is difficult to state, though the fact that in many cases the pieces seem to have been forcibly broken and flattened tends to substantiate the former hypothesis. The stone objects, however, fare much better, but these are usually limited to idols, human heads, small jade axes of excellent finish, ranging from one to two inches in length, and weapons, though the writer has in his possession a portion of what seems to have been a stone *olla*. One of the carved heads taken from these burial grounds is of a perfect negroid type, the thick lips, flat up-turned nose and kinky hair all being clearly represented.



PLAYAS DE LOS MUERTOS OF THE OLOA, NEAR SAN
MIGUEL, HONDURAS

VALLEY OF THE CHAMELECON, HONDURAS
ANOTHER MOUND NEAR SAN PEDRO SULA, HONDURAS

MOUND NEAR SAN PEDRO SULA, HONDURAS



PLAYAS IN WHICH THE SPECIMENS ARE FOUND PROTRUDING FROM THE PERPENDICULAR BANKS

In the excellent collection of Dr. Austin of Porto Cortez is a magnificent stone specimen in the shape of a half-moon, measuring about 14 in. from tip to tip and which came from this section. It is very skillfully shaped and has a sharp edge upon the back, lending ground to the suggestion of its owner that it might have been used for chopping purposes, much in the same manner as the similar instrument now employed by the natives. This collection is a most noteworthy one and contains many specimens of the finest type from the valley of the Oloa.

On the Chamelecon there is a Playa del Muerto near Naco, which is caused by the encroaching of the river upon the site of the ruins, yet about 6 miles below the town of Chamelecon the most noted one on this stream is found. Here there is a recurrence of the conditions noted upon the Oloa on a smaller scale—human bones, pottery, stone implements and figures of terra cotta are washed out by the flood waters, and when the level of the river drops to its normal height a new harvest of culture symbols awaits the industrious, though frequently unappreciative, husbandman.

These *playas* display neither in their natural condition nor upon excavation any structural lines whatever, while the pottery is frequently found in strata which has given rise to a supposition that they were washed from some point above and deposited by the river—a manifest mistake when it is remembered that the specimens are confined to certain well-defined areas, and not strewn promiscuously along the river's bank, and that frequently an *olla* broken into several pieces will be discovered, each piece regularly laid together in one stratum.

Two questions, then, at once present themselves—were the *playas* an-

cient burial sites originally at a safe distance from the river, but which subsequent changes in the course of the stream brought within its reach, or were they formerly located near the river's bank and laid bare through the process of natural erosion?—Quite a material difference, as in the former case a very respectable age would naturally have to be presupposed. The chief difficulty to this solution is the number of deposits opened by the river in the space of a few miles, unless this portion of the Oloa valley was a vast necropolis, which the facts do not seem to substantiate. On the other hand, the well-known predilection of the Indians for securing a safe burial site and their knowledge of the river would seem to answer a negative to the second question. Further, a very evident change in levels has taken place here also, as one of the skulls found was nearly 20 ft. beneath the surface and, together with many pieces of the pottery, below the normal water line. Neither did the writer find any specimens in the shallowest stratum within 7 ft. of the surface. Further, no mounds were noted in connection with these deposits. All other burial places examined were in the form of mounds, so it is probable that these have been leveled by successive floods, to which the Oloa is exceedingly susceptible.

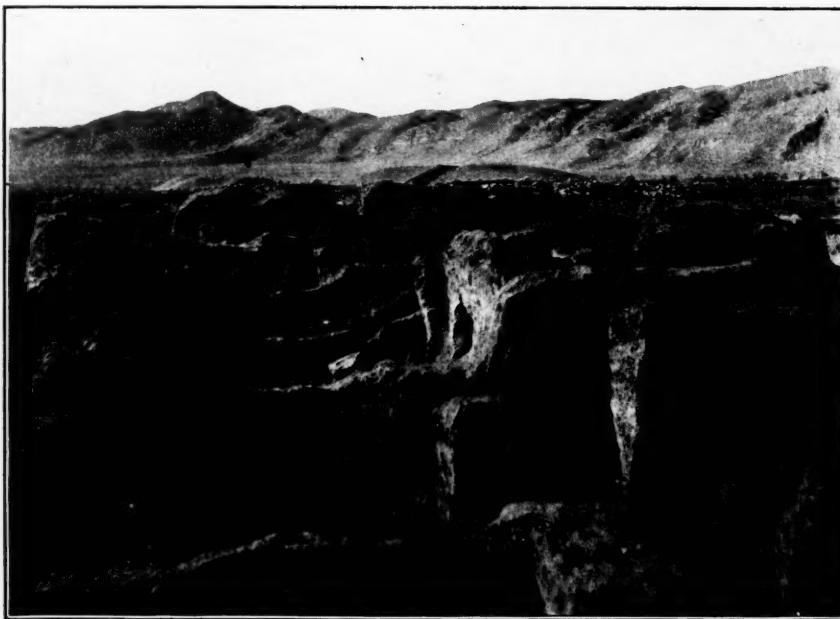
It therefore seems to follow that there must have been great activity of the river during a long period of years to cover these remains with such a deep deposit of alluvial soil, and to have changed the entire water level of the valley so as to permit interments that would now be considered impossible—a probable change of the river's course undoubtedly being involved.

Hence it may be assumed that in that distant day when the possessor of the small crushed skull was laid to his final rest the river flowed at a lower level in another portion of the valley, and that it was yet many long years before pursuing its headlong way it was to bury its dead beneath a still heavier sedimentary shroud and then eventually to bring the crumbling bones to light upon the grim stretches of the "Shores of the Dead."

A. HOOTON BLACKISTON.



TERRA COTTA STAMP FROM THE VALLEY OF CHAMELECON



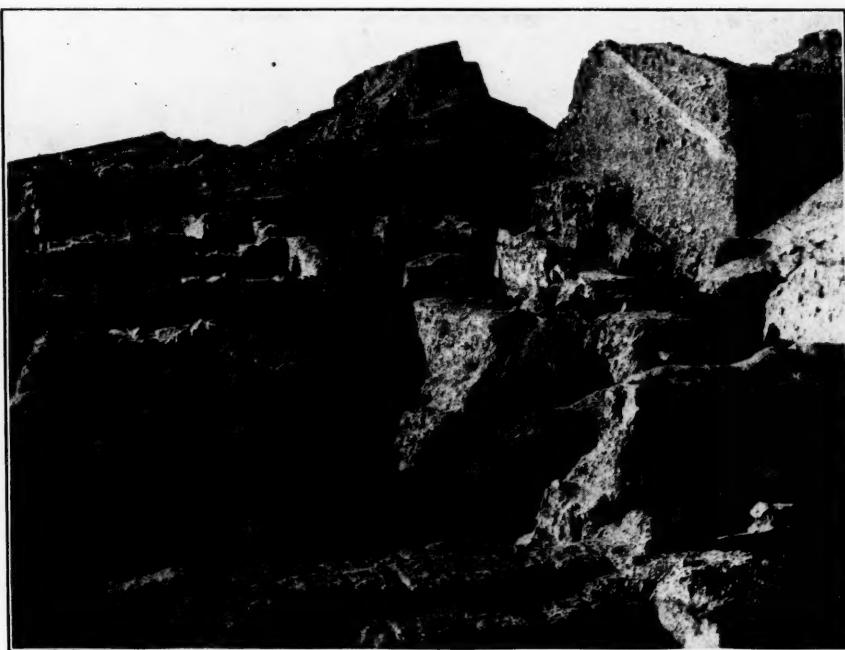
GENERAL VIEW OF EXCAVATED JERICHO

EXCAVATED JERICHO

EXCAVATION is an instructor, substantiator, and enlightener, and should be of interest to all who read and study the records of past times. During the past 20 years excavators have unearthed much that has thrown light on ancient sites and customs; especially has this been the case in Palestine, where the excavation societies of England and Germany have done so much along these lines.

The last place attacked by the pick, spade and crowbar of the excavator, and with most valuable results, is the site of Jericho, the city first taken by the Israelites after they had crossed the Jordan. For several months during the cool season for the past 3 years, hundreds of men, women and girls have been busily engaged on the huge mounds that have been undisturbed for long, long centuries, how many it would be almost impossible to say or even guess. The result of all this expenditure of money and labor has been to lay bare the probable site of Jericho as it was vacated during the early years of the Kings.

It is to be regretted that the German excavators have been so reticent over the discoveries made on this interesting site, but such is the case, and the ancient pottery, coins, and such things were all shipped off to some place in Europe without anyone having opportunity to see them; but what is left is interesting as it gives some idea of the way the people lived and did things so far back in the history of the Canaanites; therefore these lines are



EXCAVATIONS AT JERICHO SHOWING SHAFTS DUG TO LOCATE WALLS AND FOUNDATIONS. WALLS ARE MUD BRICK

written and photographs reproduced, so that the reader may get some idea as to how "excavated Jericho" looks after being deserted by the excavator.

The story of the fall of Jericho after being encompassed by the Israelites is of so unique a nature, that we get enlarged ideas as to the size of the city that succumbed in so remarkable a manner, whereas in reality Jericho was what we should call a village very compactly built, the houses being nothing more than rooms adjoining one another, as will be seen by the illustrations taken on the spot. The location of the city, for such we shall call it, was directly under the eastern border of the wilderness and mountains of Judea, as well as under the shadow of what has been named by tradition the Mount of Temptation. No doubt the presence of a strong spring of good water was accountable for the building of the city there, for water is a necessity for any people.

The excavators set to work in the usual way by making huge incisions in the mound from different points, and then working crossways from one to the other. It was not long before they were well rewarded for their pains by coming across low walls built of sun-dried mud bricks, each one about 15 in. square and 6 in. thick. As the accumulation of debris was cleared away, small rooms began to appear, and it was not long ere rows of such were discovered, each with an entrance off from a long, narrow passage that ran along the entire front of these tiny dwellings. In many of these Jericho hovels, which in extent were about 9 ft. by 6, there were traces of fire, and

the conclusion is that the cooking for the residents was done in one corner of these limited homes. In some of the tiny enclosures, for that is all they can be called, are the well-preserved remains of earthenware water jars in which the daily supply for the family was stored.

At one end of the city, that toward the southwest, the well-preserved remains of a small citadel were discovered, sufficient to show that the inhabitants of Jericho found it necessary to be prepared against the attacks of their warlike neighbors. Further excavation is necessary to reveal the extent and capacity of this military section of the city.

Much labor was expended in unearthing the walls of the place. From what has been revealed, there appear to have been three walls, one built of huge unhewn blocks of stone forming the outer defense of the city, and two inner walls composed entirely of huge mudbricks. On the north and west sides of the city the excavators were successful in unearthing three sections of the foundation of what was probably the original wall of the city, and is interesting as a sample of early Canaanitish work. All three pieces of wall are alike in manner of construction. Instead of being built upright, the wall has a decided slope inward, and, as will be seen by the illustration, there are no regular courses of hewn stone, but a jumble of all kinds of stone intermixed with a very durable mortar, which has stood the test of at least three thousand years.

As some attempts were made to rebuild Jericho after its first fall, it was not to be expected that anything in the nature of fallen walls was to be found, but we are fairly safe in concluding that what has been brought to light is the original foundation of the wall that surrounded Jericho at the time of the entrance into Canaan by the Israelites.¹ This discovery alone proves that the task of the excavator has not been in vain.

Among the ruins were found various kinds of pottery, one thing found being quite unusual in that line. It was in the shape of an old time English-horn lantern, but made entirely of earthenware; for what purpose it was used has yet to be determined. Quantities of round balls, some of stone, others of baked clay, were found, each having a hole through the center. These were either weaver's weights or weights used in connection with the trade and commerce of those days. So numerous were these that quantities were left lying about the ruins and have been taken to all parts of the world by travelers who have visited the place since it was vacated by excavators.

Hand mills of a very primitive kind were also found in the tiny homes. They are different from anything in use in these days, as there was no revolving stone to crush the grain. In form these mills were oblong, slightly hollow in the middle, and, instead of the grain being ground by an upper stone, it was crushed by a heavy stone being rolled to and fro on it, which must have been a much more laborious process than that of the present time. The stones forming this important item of household necessity are very rudely hewn and finished, and take us back to a time when the people

¹ This statement is of special importance at the present time as newspaper reports have been in circulation to the effect that the excavations by the Germans proved that the walls of Jericho never fell. Whether this is the actual conclusion of the German excavators or not, we have not been able to ascertain as yet. [Editor.]

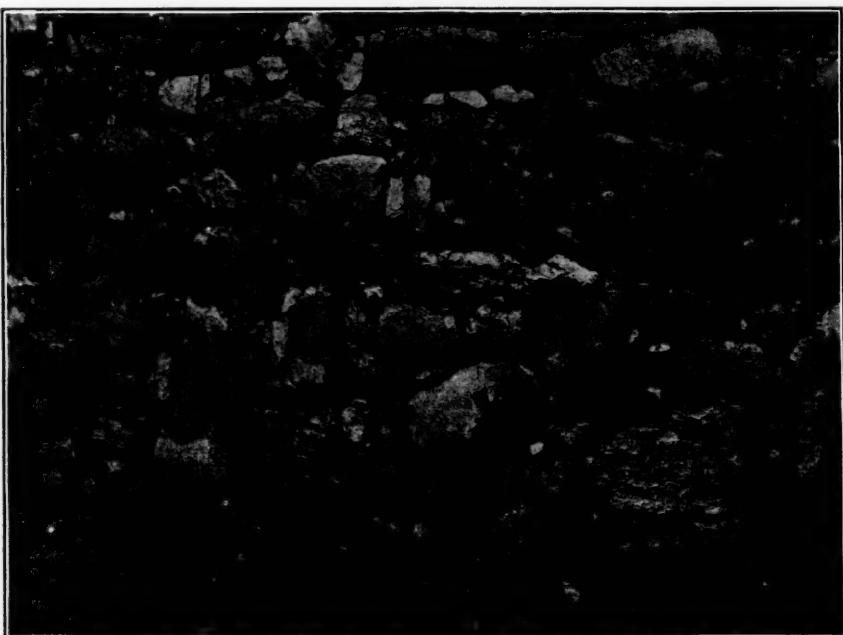


PECULIAR STRUCTURE UNEARTHED AT JERICHO. THESE ARE ALWAYS SOME DISTANCE FROM THE TINY LIVING ROOMS. THEIR USE IS UNDETERMINED AS YET.

were not so efficient in the art of handling stone as they were later down in the centuries.

Scattered about over the ruins are numerous stones distinctly showing that the dwellings had doors which were hung on hinges which revolved in upper and lower sockets, the latter being deep holes hollowed out in heavy, hard slabs of flint or limestone. This style of door hinge, still in vogue in out-of-the-way places, is one of the simplest and most primitive modes of swinging a door, and has probably come down from preceding generations.

Among the many things that were unearthed within the walls of the city was one which has not a little puzzled those that have seen it, and even yet awaits a reasonable explanation as to its probable use and purpose. Referring to the illustration (page—), it will be seen to resemble an elongated drum standing erect, about 12 ft. high. It is built entirely of mud and has the appearance of being solid, for there is nothing in the way of entrance or opening either on the top or in the sides. Such objects seem to have been erected in such positions as to be protected from any likely damage, and, being isolated from their surroundings by about a foot of space, it would appear that the constructors were desirous of protecting them from damp or the inroads of vermin or rodents. Around the top is a barricade

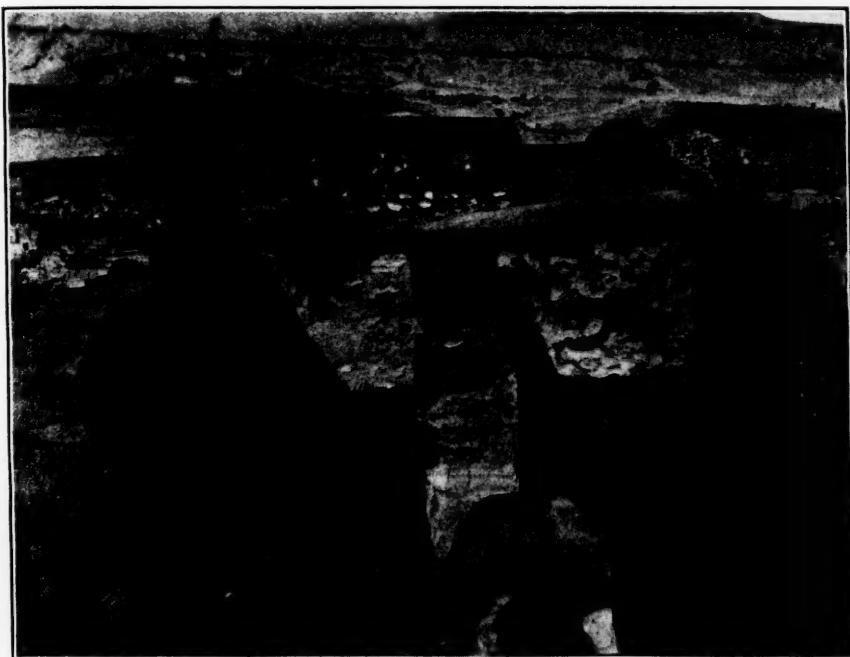


ANCIENT WALL OF CRUDE CANAANITISH WORKMANSHIP

about 12 in. high, made of clay, which was probably intended to keep whatever was deposited on it from rolling or falling off. As far as is known, nothing of the kind has been found in the other sites unearthed in Palestine, and in this respect the excavations of Jericho are unique.

Nothing in the way of obelisks or pillars was found that would connect with the worship of those times, although once the excavators thought that they had come upon the religious centre of the city, but there was nothing of sufficient importance to verify anything connected with early Semitic worship.

As at Gezer, several skeletons were found under the foundations of the buildings and houses, leading us to believe that the early inhabitants of



LIVING ROOMS EXCAVATED AT JERICHO

Palestine were accustomed to slay a human being as a sacrifice on the construction or dedication of a home or public place.

The probability is that the remains of this early Canaanitish city will not long remain in their present condition, for the able men who undertook the revealing of this ancient site are of the opinion that under what has been exposed is a pre-historic city, and, with permission granted from the authorities in Constantinople, excavations might begin again and what has been revealed of Joshua's Jericho pass off the face of the earth forever.

It was a matter of regret to the excavators that nothing in the way of inscribed stones or tablets was found among the ruins or accumulation of debris, and although great care was taken to sift and examine all that was dug up, nothing in the way of writing was found. As far as can be learned, the only letters or words discovered were those found on the handles of jars and pitchers, and these were nearly all of one kind and referred to some one of the many gods of that period.

Although there may have been disappointment along some lines as regards the results of 3 seasons' work, yet it must be admitted that much of interest has been added to the world of discovery and research, and not the least is the location and probable appearance of an early city of the Holy Land, thus confirming, as nothing else can, the truth of the Bible in what it records of the doings of the early inhabitants of the land.

Jerusalem.

A. FORDER.



FIG. I. A ZUÑI JAR

EXAMPLES OF UNUSUAL ZUÑIAN POTTERY

IT IS a long time now since I visited Zuñi—as long ago as April 19, 1885—when I was there for a few days in charge of the military escort that took Professor J. W. P. Jenks of Brown University and Mr. Gail Borden of Philadelphia to the Pueblo. Both these well-known men have long ago joined, as a Zuni Indian would say, “our lost others.” My account of that very delightful trip has been published elsewhere.

We were treated with marked courtesy by the missionary there, as well as by Mr. Graham, the trader on the reservation. Through the kindness of the former, I had the opportunity of observing some of the women potters of the tribe go through the entire process of making a number of large figure-painted jars, which they were especially requested to do with great care. These were purchased next day by my Philadelphia friend, while I preferred to apply my space and means to obtaining those which had a far greater value for me. When I say space, I mean the room in the ambulance to store them to take back to Fort Wingate, New Mexico, where I was stationed at the time, as post surgeon. Through the friendly aid of the missionary and by getting into the good graces of the governor, who was delighted to find that I knew so many people in Washington connected with the Survey and the Bureau of Ethnology, I secured two particularly fine jars, of large size, and very interestingly decorated. Moreover, they had been carefully made for their own use and so were the real thing in all particulars. But in addition to these I took occasion to let the governor know that I was more desirous of obtaining some old pieces, whether big or little, cracked or whole. At first he shrugged his shoulders, shook his head and

led me to believe that Mr. Frank Cushing, or Mr. James Stevenson or Mrs. Stevenson, or others had taken in all of that sort a year or two before. This I declined to credit, and knowing the Indian nature through my long residence among them, it was not a great while before I got around him, and we were together searching all the old and remote nooks and corners, that we could find in the town. As a result of this investigation, we gathered together some 7 or 8 very odd-looking little bits of old Zuni ware, the like of which, it struck me at the time I had never seen before, and withal had a very unfamiliar look about them. This collection I promptly purchased, and subsequently landed safely at home.

At that time, there was no one at Fort Wingate who possessed any unusual or exact knowledge with respect to Zuñi pottery, so my purchases were reserved for better and more expert examiners. The missionary and the trader at the Pueblo assured me that the pieces I had secured were "out of the common run." Personally, I had not given the matter much attention, as my entire spare time was given over to a study of the zoölogy of the region, and the description of a great quantity of anatomical material sent me for description by Professor Baird of the Smithsonian Institution.

A short time afterwards, I entertained at my quarters the late Doctor Cyrus Thomas and Mr. Constantine Pilling, both of the United States Geological Survey. Doctor Thomas was much taken with the small jar of the collection, here shown in fig. 2, and remarked in regard to it, that he had never seen anything like it in all of the government and private collections of Zuñi pottery studied by him—and, as we all know, Doctor Thomas was well versed in Indian pottery, especially that of the pueblos, as well as of the ancient cliff-dwellers. A year or so before his death, which occurred in July, 1888, the distinguished ethnologist, Mr. James Stevenson, examined these pieces and said that he had never obtained anything quite like them and that one or two of them were quite unusual in material coming from Zuñi. To the best of my recollection, this was likewise the opinion of the late Mr. Frank Hamilton Cushing, and very recently, nearly a quarter of a century after my obtaining these particular pieces of ware, Mr. DeLancy Gill of the United States Bureau of Ethnology, was especially struck with the little jar seen in fig. 3, and said that a description and illustration of it would be well worthy of publication. Having a full set of the *Annual Reports of the Bureau of Ethnology* in my personal library, I next studied my ware in the light of the very extensive and classic contributions of Professor W. H. Holmes and other authorities to those volumes, and therein have failed to find any specimens of Zuñi pottery at all closely resembling the pieces in my collection, before me—that is either in the particular of form, or of decoration.

In view of all these facts and opinions, it has occurred to me to give a brief description of the two more interesting pieces in this collection, which may be set forth as follows:—

The vase, here shown in fig. 2, is a trifle over 8 in. high, with a circumference of 17 in. at its greatest swell. At its opening or aperture it measures 3½ in., the periphery rolling very slightly outwards. In form it is somewhat a symmetrical, and upon the whole was evidently made with no



FIG. 2. A ZUÑI JAR

great care, or else is the work of an unskilled potter. Its surface is rough and unglazed, and the vessel is only moderately thick,—hard and with a certain amount of ring to it, when struck with some light object. In color the clay has turned to a reddish gray, while internally it is of a sooty black, taken on by the firing. The only ornamentations it presents are the irregularly disposed and well-pronounced indentations all over its external surface, made by some small blunt instrument. In some places these are small, while in others they are scraggly lines, exhibiting the haste of the potter to get over the surface and complete the work. These scarifications in no way suggest the ornamented surface produced in the early or archaic coiled ware, though the fact is well known that Zuni, as well as other pueblan potters, thus made attempts at such imitations.

A vase of this manufacture may be comparatively modern, or it may be of considerable age, for according to Cushing,

The succession in the methods of ornamentation of Pueblo pottery seems to have been first by incision or indentation; then by relief; afterward by painting in black on a natural or light surface; finally, by painting in color on a white or colored surface.¹

What seems to the writer to be a very unusual combination of decorations is here shown in the small pot figured in the first cut of this article. Here we have the lower part of the vessel very similar to the vase just described, that is, rough, uncolored and irregularly marked with the same kind of indentations, while the upper part is smooth, decorated by painting with a black figuration, as shown on a white surface. This interesting little jar, nearly 5 in. high, forms a part of my own collection, and was obtained at Zuñi, at the same time that the others were. A piece of ware of this kind, it would appear, represents work done during a transitional pe-



FIG. 3. A UNIQUE ZUÑI JAR

riod, when both styles of ornamentation were in vogue, showing, too, that the method of indentation has been brought down to modern times. The markings indicate that this small jar was made by a virgin.

Of still greater interest is the remarkable little jar shown in fig. 3,—less than 3½ in. high; 3 in. in diameter at its nearly circular somewhat everted brim. This is, as a piece of Zuñi ware, a particularly crude example of pottery work, and is probably the handiwork of some little girl, or maybe an old woman, and just why it should have received such elaborate decoration is quite problematical. Internally it is coarse and rough, due to the indifferent clay from which it was made. This roughness is but poorly concealed by the painting and decorations upon its surface. Below the latter, the form of the vessel is hemispherical, no attempt having been made to square its base, in order to have it stand steady.

¹ Frank H. Cushing, "A Study of Pueblo Pottery as illustrative of Zuñi Culture-growth." *Ann. Rep. of the Bu. of Ethn.*, 1882-3, p. 507.

The figures as shown in the cut, are black upon a white ground, as is also the brim, including the entire internal surface of the everted portion. The decorations including the band upon which they rest, and the bottom, are all of a dull brick red, with black limiting lines of very narrow widths, both above and below. These decorations are of two kinds, the upper circlet consisting of 22 irregular little cones, varying somewhat in size and evidently squeezed on with the fingers which moulded them. Below these is a circlet of 8 coiled fillets also differing somewhat in size, having a form as shown in fig. 3. A central black line follows the curve of each fillet on its surface, as a crude addition to such decorative efforts as they possess. This band, as a whole, does not lie squarely in the horizontal plane, but exhibits a perceptible wave as it passes around the jar, thus showing a faulty symmetry. Indeed the entire product is lacking in the latter quality to a considerable degree.

Unquestionably, this little jar is of modern make, while its ornaments in relief are all of a style pertaining to archaic patterns, and, so far as my observations go, very rarely used by the Zuñis of the present day. While the relief ornaments, such as the single and double coiled fillets, and the nodes and cones, on pottery were but rarely employed, by the potters of the ancient Pueblos, they nevertheless arose there, and have persisted as a part of the art to the present time, and they are now of very much rarer occurrence, while the forms remain practically the same. Hence when met with, they are worthy of description for permanent preservation as in the present instance.

R. W. SHUFELDT.

Washington, D. C.



AN ALMOST FORGOTTEN BATTLE

THE operations of the British forces in Chesapeake Bay and its tributary waters during the War of 1812, were characterized by a spirit of extreme recklessness and dare-devil bravery, inspired partly no doubt by a general belief that the people of this country were at heart cowards, and practically incapable of properly defending their homes and their honor. In some cases this rashness was attended with success, if plunder and the spoliation of private property can be brought under that term, but in others it met with the merited penalty of defeat and heavy loss. One of the most conspicuous cases of the latter kind is comprehended in the attack of the British army and fleet upon Craney Island, in the Elizabeth River, near Norfolk, Va., in June, 1813—an affair that was intended to result in the capture of the United States frigate *Constellation*, of the City of Norfolk, and of the Navy Yard, with its large and valuable stores of public property. The island was small—about 35 acres in extent—and was without natural defences, flat and so low that part of it was always in danger of being submerged at high tide; but it had been intelligently prepared for an attack, it had a well-built system of intrenchments, it had a battery of 7 guns, 2 of them 18-pounders, and it had a force of over 700 men, regulars, seamen, marines, and militia, commanded by able and courageous officers. Besides these, there was a contiguous force of small barges with cannon, and near by the armed frigate *Constellation*. Notwithstanding these rather formidable preparations, the British commanders, instead of shelling the island from a distance, determined to take it by storm. The attacking force consisted of about 2,500 men, infantry and marines, who landed far away from the fortification, but proceeded at once toward it; also of 50 large barges, armed with suitable sized ordnance, and containing a force of 1,500 sailors and marines, which force moved against the island almost simultaneously with the land troops. The result was a signal defeat for the British. The land attack was met by rapid and deadly discharges from the American battery, so effective that the whole body of the enemy was driven back ignominiously to their landing place, while the water attack which was equally courageous, was also unsuccessful. As the first division of the flotilla approached, the whole American battery belched forth fire and smoke, and round, grape, and canister shot with such accurate aim and in such rapid succession that a fearful shock was given to the attacking force. Yet in the face of this fire the British continued to advance, until the storm of metal was too terrible to be endured. The boats were thrown into confusion. One of them, commanded by Captain Hanchett said to have been a natural son of George the Third, was sunk with 4 others in shoal water, while the rest, together with the remains of the land force, escaped to their ships. It was a pronounced and disgraceful defeat; so that before the close of the day the British leaders, admiral Cockburn among them, had abandoned all hope of seizing Norfolk, the *Constellation*, or the Navy Yard. It was their last attempt in that quarter.

The British attack upon the little settlement at St. Michael's in Talbot County, Maryland, in August, 1814, was another conspicuous instance of the recklessness alluded to. The village was founded by ship-builders, and was rather famous as the place where most of the fast-sailing privateers known as "Baltimore clippers" were built. At the time of the attack several of these vessels were on the stocks. The purpose of Admiral Cockburn, who though not then the commander of the enemy's fleet, seems to have dominated it, was to destroy the ship yards and the village, and to this end on the morning of the eleventh, with 11 barges of troops and sailors (each barge armed with a 6-pounder field-piece), he made a determined charge on the place. The Americans, fortunately, and as might have been foreseen by a prudent enemy, had erected two batteries to defend themselves, and behind them they made a gallant resistance. The result was that the Americans sustained no loss whatever, except the spiking of two or three of their guns, while the British suffered severely; a single discharge from one of the batteries killing 19 of them, besides wounding many more; and in the end they were forced back tumultuously to their boats, never to disturb St. Michael's again.

The attack by Sir Peter Parker upon the little village of Moorfields, near Chestertown, on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, is another instance of this same spirit of bloody-mindedness and rashness. It will be remembered that this officer, said to have been the handsomest man in the English navy—a cousin of the poet Lord Byron—having been detailed to make a diversion with his flagship and another frigate in the northern part of the bay, while Cockburn and General Ross were attacking the City of Washington, and having committed numberless acts of oppression against defenseless non-combatants—received an order from Admiral Cochrane to return to the Patuxent where the main part of the fleet was anchored; but with the customary deviltry and imprudence that has been adverted to, he could not content himself with simply obeying his orders, but must first have, as he expressed it, "a frolic with the Yankees." He made the attack and had his "frolic", but it turned out to be a tragedy; for instead of overpowering the Yankees, and plundering and burning their homes, which was intended to be the outcome of the "frolic," he lost his own life, and the rest of the force, after leaving on the field 13 of their associates dead and three others wounded, fled disgracefully back to their ships; so that this would-be conqueror, instead of returning to England with a fresh garland on his brow, went back in a hogshead of alcohol.

The attack on Baltimore was still another case of foolhardiness. Here the British fleet in order to accomplish their purpose, had to pass two well-manned forts before getting to the city, and their troops were to have before them an army greater than their own, and led by skilled veterans—the commander-in-chief, General Samuel Smith, being a brave old Revolutionary soldier—all which must have been known to Cochrane and Ross, the leaders of the British naval and military forces. The result every schoolboy knows. Ross, instead of breakfasting in Baltimore, as he boasted he would do, had his career cut short by death on the battle-field. Fort McHenry and North Point, commemorated in our noble national song, "The Star Spangled

Banner," are proud testimonials of the valor of our countrymen, and eloquent illustrations of the folly of their enemy.

The British invasion of the City of Washington was attended with more success than in the other cases cited; but it was equally reckless. What reasonable commander could have expected that an expedition embodying only some 5000 or 6000 men, without cavalry and practically without artillery, requiring a march of over 20 miles in the heat of summer through an enemy's country, to the Capital of a nation, defended by a greater force than their own, and where ample time existed with ordinary intelligence and activity, to have thrown up sufficient and satisfactory earthworks for defence, would result in anything but defeat? And what military advantage was to be expected in case of success? Admitting that the expedition was successful, what good to the British really resulted? The destruction of a few public and private buildings was all the damage inflicted upon the Americans; their losses in the battle were quite insignificant. And what an expense to the British attended this expedition? Eternal disgrace and the loss in killed, wounded and missing of about ten per cent of their whole army—a really extraordinary loss. Under ordinary circumstances, the chances were largely against them. With such a leader as Andrew Jackson on the side of the Americans, the British expeditionary force would probably have been annihilated.

But although this land attack upon Washington may be regarded as approaching the extremity of recklessness, what can be thought of the naval expedition, with the same end in view, of Captain Gordon, up the Potomac River, planned by the British commander at the same time? To carry out this part of the expedition against the Capital, 7 sailing vessels (no steamers being then in existence) had to be brought up about 100 miles over a tortuous stream, even now rather difficult to navigate, covered with mud flats and sand bars, bordered at many places with high banks on which easily defended fortifications might have been quickly and inexpensively constructed, and, above all, on which was already erected a masonry fort, scientifically built, capable, under a man like Colonel Croghan, for instance, of destroying any fleet that might attempt to pass it. So difficult was the navigation of the stream that the British were 10 days in reaching Fort Washington, a progress that was effected only by the severest labor—five days alone being used up in warping the vessels over a course of fifty miles. Captain Gordon states in his special report to Admiral Cochrane, that each of his ships was aground no less than twenty-times, and every time it had to be drawn off by main strength. The proper and logical result of such an expedition should have been the complete destruction of the fleet. Instead of this, however, the British proceeded up the river past Fort Washington, which they took without opposition, and as far as Alexandria, which city, being defenceless, they ruthlessly plundered, and then started to return.

During this retreat, a serious attempt was made by the Americans to destroy the British fleet, notable as showing that the humiliating affair at Bladensburg had not entirely demoralized the government at Washington, and that some of the most capable officers in the United States navy were

selected for the work. The plan was to send down by land to suitable points along the river, enough ammunition and cannon to equip two temporary batteries one to be in charge of Commodore David Porter and the other in charge of Commodore Oliver H. Perry, and to provide two or three fire ships, under the control of Commodore John Rodgers—the batteries to sink the enemy's ships if possible, or the fire ships to burn them. The main engagement that occurred in this attempt, between the British force and that under Commodore Porter, and now almost a forgotten incident in the war of 1812, may not improperly be called—

THE BATTLE OF THE WHITE-HOUSE.

About 16 miles from Washington is the historic estate of Belvoir, sometimes called the "White-House," fronting on the Potomac River, and extending from Dogue Creek, formerly the southern boundary of Mount Vernon, to Gunston Cove and Accotink Creek. It was originally a part of the immense tract known as the Northern Neck of Virginia, which was granted by Charles the Second, King of England to certain favorites, and by them sold to the Earl of Culpeper, through whom, by inheritance it finally got into the possession of the celebrated Thomas Fairfax, Baron Cameron, who came from England to look personally after his property in 1739, and who died in 1781, at the age of 92 years, at his sequestered home, Greenway Court, in the Shenandoah Valley, near Winchester, Va. Belvoir, in George Washington's youth, was occupied by William Fairfax, a cousin of Lord Fairfax, and his land agent—a man of education and refinement, who had seen much of the world, and had been a prominent actor in its affairs. Occupying contiguous estates, it was but natural that the families of Mount Vernon and of Belvoir should become very intimate, more especially as Lawrence Washington, the proprietor of Mount Vernon, had married the daughter of Mr. Fairfax, and that young George Washington, who was almost constantly residing with his brother, should also enjoy this intimacy. In fact, during his stay at Mount Vernon he was in daily communication with the Fairfax family, by whom he was greatly liked and respected. Indeed, there is no reason to doubt that to Lord Fairfax and his cousin William, George Washington was indebted for much of his social training, for the incipiency and encouragement of his ambition, and for his first employment as a surveyor of the Fairfax lands in the upper portion of the tract, the experience gained in which employment, lasting over three years, probably led to his being chosen by Governor Dinwiddie as his bearer of dispatches to the French commandant at Fort du Quesne, then to his appointment as colonel in the Colonial militia, then to his being commissioned as aid to General Braddock in his unfortunate expedition against the French and Indians, then to his election to the continental Congress, and finally to his fortunate selection as commander-in-chief of the army in the War of the Revolution. On one of the bluffs of this historic plantation, within sight of Mount Vernon and of Fort Washington, so disgracefully surrendered to the British fleet during its ascent to Alexandria a few weeks before, Commodore Porter decided to plant his little battery, and to

begin his fight. His force consisted of a regiment of Virginia militia under General John P. Hungerford, together with a detachment of marines and sailors, the latter being part of the crew of his old ship the *Essex*, collected, under the supposition that he was to perform another duty, by the following animating summons, published in the newspapers:

FREE TRADE AND SAILORS' RIGHTS.

To the crew of the Old Essex. SAILORS.—The enemy is about attempting the destruction of your new ship at Washington, and I am ordered there to defend her. I shall proceed immediately, and all disposed to accompany me will meet me at 5 o'clock this afternoon at the Navy Agent's Office.

D. PORTER.

NEW YORK, August 22, 1814.

Porter lost no time in bringing his sailors to Washington, nor in repairing to the spot where the battle was to be fought, getting there in advance of his men, and before the militia of General Hungerford had fully cleared the place of obstructions. In his official report to the Secretary of the Navy, made on September 7, 1814, he says:

Agreeable to your orders of the 31st ultimo, I proceeded with the detachment of sailors and marines under my command to the White House, on the west bank of the Potomac, there to erect batteries and attempt the destruction of the enemy's ships on their passage down the river. Captain Creighton, Lieutenant Clark, and several other navy officers, as well as Mr. Augustus Monroe, Mr. Ferdinando Fairfax, and several other citizens and officers of the militia and volunteer companies, hearing of my destination, volunteered their services on the occasion, and ably supported me through the arduous and fatiguing enterprise. By preceding my men I arrived, in company with the honorable Secretary of State and Generals Hungerford and Young, on the evening of the 1st inst., at the spot fixed upon, where I found a few militia belonging to General Hungerford's army clearing away the trees to make room for mounting our cannon, which had not yet arrived, but which had been seen on their way down, consisting of three long 18's and two 12's. Generals Hungerford and Young had received orders to coöperate with me, to detach men on my requisition, and make such disposition of their forces as would effectually protect me in the rear in the event of the enemy's landing. The positions they were to occupy were also allotted to them by mutual agreement when the enemy should attempt to pass, as it was believed that, concealed by the thick woods on the right bank, they would be enabled to clear the enemy's decks with their musketry, and in a great measure divert his fire from our battery. At the moment of my arrival, one of the enemy's vessels of war—a brig of eighteen guns—was seen coming up. General Hungerford and his men took their position in the woods; and two small four-pounders that instant arriving, I caused them to be placed on the edge of the bank, and on the enemy arriving abreast of us, we opened a brisk fire on him. Having a fine breeze, he was enabled to pass us, but could fire only one broadside as he crossed the fire of our field-pieces and musketry. The militia continued following him up along the bank and greatly annoyed him by their well-directed fire. In this affair we had only one man wounded; and we believed our elevated position rendered breastworks useless, as it was remarked that none but the enemy's grape passed over us: his round shot went into the bank below. No men could have shown more zeal on the occasion than those composing the army; and if they committed any errors which gave rise to confusion, they proceeded from an over-desire to injure the enemy. Of the conduct of the sailors and marines I deem it unnecessary to say anything: their conduct on all such occasions has ever been uniform.

On the night of September 1 Commodore Porter's men slept near the battery. He himself retired to the farmhouse of Mr. Ferdinando Fairfax

about a mile distant, where he staid until morning. Then he returned, and renewed the fight. Continuing his report he says:

The evening of our arrival two 18-pounders reached our position, and next morning one of the enemy's bomb-ships and two barges, one carrying a long two-and-thirty, the other a mortar, commenced their operations upon us, the first throwing shells in front, beyond the reach of our shot, the other flanking us on our right. Several shells fell near and burst over our battery, and although the firing lasted all day without intermission, it had no other effect than to accustom the militia to the danger. In the afternoon I took an 18-pounder to a more advanced point, about a mile distant and commenced a fire on the bomb-ship, which did so much execution as to draw on us the fire of all their vessels, including a schooner and an 18-gun brig, which had dropped down that day.

During the night the fleet, being unprovided with pilots familiar with the channel of the river, remained quiescent; but in the morning the enemy resumed the attack. The report of the Commodore is as follows:

On the 3d the enemy was reinforced from above by another bomb-ship and a sloop of war fitted up as a rocket-ship. The latter anchoring within reach of our battery, we were enabled to play upon her with great effect, and compelled her to change her position. All this day and the succeeding night the enemy kept up a brisk fire on us of shot, shells, and rockets. In the course of the day their prizes from Alexandria anchored above them, and out of the reach of our cannon. The work of our battery went on. Five light field-pieces from four to six pounds, arrived and were planted, and we had every hope of soon receiving some long 32-pounders from Washington. We built a furnace for hot shot, and time only appeared necessary to make ourselves formidable.

Evidently the Commodore and his men had pluck and energy enough, to say nothing of skill in handling their guns; but these guns were too small. Four and six pound shot did comparatively little damage to the enemy's ships. However, there was no diminution of effort on either side. The report continues:

The whole of the 4th and 5th an incessant fire was kept up by the enemy night and day. He had once attempted landing at night, it is supposed with an intention of spiking the guns of our battery, but was repulsed by the picket-guard. My former plan of annoying him by advancing guns was adopted, to better effect than before. The rocket ship, lying close in shore, was much cut up by a 12-pounder and two 6's carried to a point. Scarcely a shot missed his hull, and for one hour we drew to this point the fire of all the enemy's force. The cool indifference of my sailors to the danger to which they were exposed was very remarkable, and the intrepidity of Captain Griffith, of the Alexandria artillery, his officers and men, merits the highest eulogiums. They fought their six-pounders until their ammunition was expended, and coolly retired with their guns, when ordered to do so, under a shower of the enemy's shot. We now, as if by mutual consent, ceased all hostilities. Some 32-pounders arrived. Carpenters were employed to make carriages. Two mortars, a large quantity of ammunition, and an abundance of shot and shells reached us. Two barges were equipped and everything promised that we should speedily be put in a proper state for annoying the enemy. In the evening two frigates anchored alone above us, making his whole force—

Two frigates, carrying.....	96 guns.
Four bomb-ships, carrying.....	30 "
One sloop of war, fitted as a rocket-ship, carrying.....	26 guns.
One brig, carrying.....	18 "
One schooner, carrying.....	1 gun.
Two barges, carrying.....	2 guns.
Total.....	173 "

The guns mounted in the battery were three 18-pounders, two 12-pounders, six 9-pounders, and two 4's. My two mortars were without carriages, as all my 32's; for notwithstanding every effort was made by the government at Washington to have them made there, and by myself on the spot, they could not be completed in time.

From the above statement it is apparent that the battle was a one-sided affair. Certainly 11 vessels, two of them large-frigates, with a total armament of 173 guns, must be regarded as an overmatch for a little hastily built battery of 13 guns, most of them of small caliber, and a trifling force of infantry, made up of raw troops, fighting without intrenchments or other defensive works. Still it is rather remarkable that this little band had been able to keep up the fight for 5 successive days without faltering. Their commanders, the admiral and General Hungerford, were satisfied with them. The former thus concludes his report:

On the morning of the 6th the enemy showed a disposition to move. I advised General Hungerford of the same, and prepared to meet them with hot shot. About 12 o'clock the two frigates got under way with a fair wind and tide, and stood down for us, the rocket-sloop, bomb-vessels, brig, schooner and prizes following in succession, the gunboats endeavoring to flank us on our right. I immediately dispatched an officer to General Hungerford to request him to take the position agreed upon in the woods on the heights; but from the distance of his camp and the quick approach of the enemy he was unable to march before the firing commenced and after that period it was almost impossible, as I have understood, from the vast quantities of shot, shell, and rockets which were showered over the hills and fell among his troops. As the enemy approached, a well-directed fire was kept up from the battery with hot and cold shot, and my brave officers and men stood the broadsides of the ships with unparalleled firmness. I anxiously expected the militia would open their fire of musketry, but was disappointed; the cause was not explained until after the firing ceased. Finding that the whole of the enemy's fire was directed at my force, and that in a few minutes all his force would be brought to bear on me, and entertaining no hope of preventing his passage, as some of my men had already been killed and wounded, I determined not to make a needless sacrifice: and when the enemy was on the point of anchoring abreast the battery, after sustaining his fire one hour and a quarter, I directed the officers and men to retire behind a hill on our left, and be in readiness to charge the enemy if he should land to spike our guns. The two frigates anchored abreast, the bombs, sloops, and smaller vessels passed outside them, all pouring into the battery and neighboring woods a tremendous fire of every description of missile. In the woods on the left a company of riflemen from Jefferson County, Virginia, under Captain George W. Humphreys, greatly distinguished themselves by a well-directed fire on the enemy's decks, as did a company of militia under the command of Captain Gena, who was posted by me on the right. The first, lost one man killed and one sergeant and four privates wounded; the latter, two privates killed. The company of artillery which so much distinguished itself on a previous occasion behaved with no less gallantry to-day; and it affords me much pleasure to observe that the militia who came under my immediate notice and were attached to my command, voluntarily or otherwise, conducted themselves in a manner which reflects on themselves and their country the highest honor. Many before the battle requested to be posted near me, and there was no instance where one offered to retire until I gave the the order to retire; and it was not necessary to repeat the order to rally. . . . Those veterans who distinguished themselves under their gallant though unfortunate commander at Bladensburg were all willing to try another battle: they have been again unsuccessful, but no less courageous. Two of them have fallen. . . . After the bombs, gun-vessels, and prizes had all passed, the frigates proceeded down and anchored abreast Indian Head, where a constant firing was kept up until after sunset, but I am fearful with little success on our part. The number we have had killed and wounded on this occasion I cannot ascertain exactly. I am induced to believe, however, it does not exceed thirty: and when

RECORDS OF THE PAST

we consider the constant fire which has been kept up by the enemy for the four days preceding their passage by the fort, we should esteem ourselves very fortunate. His damage can never be known by us. Some of his ships were much crippled and I should suppose his loss considerable. . . . When they had passed down Isent a torpedo after them: it was heard to explode about 9 at night, but I have not learnt the effect it produced.

Considering the little time in which Porter had to make his preparations and the almost insignificant equipment given him by the government, the action at the White House was rather remarkable. It confirmed the Commodore's reputation for pluck and energy, and it showed that the militia, when under capable commanders, could be relied on for creditable service. As to this, the report of Brigadier General Hungerford, made to the Secretary of State on the 6th of September, 1814, affords convincing testimony. His report in full is as follows:

HEADQUARTERS CAMP AT WHITE HOUSE, VA.,

September 6, 1814.

Sir: Yesterday morning about 2 o'clock the enemy's squadron discontinued the bombardment which had been kept up with little intermission for three days, weighed anchor, and stood down the river, commencing a heavy fire on the battery and across the neck of land through which the militia were compelled to march to its assistance. The rifle companies under Captains Humphries, Tebbs, and Fields, were immediately ordered down to the battery, which orders were promptly obeyed. I followed with Colonel Parker's regiment and two detachments under Colonels Green and Renno, leaving instructions with General Young to take a position between us and a creek which made up some distance behind, so as to prevent the enemy from falling in our rear, and to co-operate with us, if necessary, at the battery. When I had proceeded with the advance to a point within three or four hundred yards of the river, the troops were halted until I could obtain accurate information of the precise situation of the enemy. About this time Commodore Perry as I understood, finding our little battery insufficient to impede the progress of the vessels, after having long gallantly defended it, and considering a longer contention with such a superiority of metal a wanton sacrifice of blood, ordered the battery to be evacuated and his men to retire, which they did. The two largest of the enemy's vessels then anchored—one just above and the other just below the battery, and commenced a most galling cross-fire of round shot, grape, canister, etc. The troops, which had been previously ordered to shelter themselves from the fire of the enemy, it having become exceedingly severe, were immediately formed and marched back to a place of comparative security. We had scarcely retired when information was brought that the enemy discovered a disposition to land, and aid was necessary to prevent their spiking our cannon. I again moved down with the troops under our command, Colonel Dangefield with his regiment being sent on before, and had proceeded to a valley within about fifty yards of the battery, when General Young and myself, who were following with the residue of the troops, were met by Commodore Porter, within three or four hundred yards of the river. He thought that it was unnecessary to expose the whole army, and advised that 200 men, which he thought sufficient for the purpose, should be sent down to protect the battery. All the troops were then ordered back, the detail made and sent down under the command of Colonel Green. Major Banks followed with 200 men, to aid if necessary.

Permit me to say that it was impossible for men to have conducted themselves with more intrepidity than the militia on this occasion. Notwithstanding the dreadful cross-fire of every species of missile by the enemy to which they were exposed, without a possibility of returning the fire, (the most trying of all situations,) not a man of my command offered to move until orders to that effect were given, and then it was done slowly and in order. I beg also to mention the promptitude and alacrity with which the second order to march through a tremendous discharge of large shot and grape, for the distance

of about a mile, was immediately obeyed. Captain Humphrey, with his rifle company, was stationed just above the battery and is entitled to the highest commendation for the courage and activity with which he fought. Captain Griffith, of Alexandria, was under the immediate direction of Commodore Porter, who spoke of him in the highest terms of approbation. Captain Janney, of Essex, was near the battery at the time of the action, with a fatigue party of 50 or 60 men, and deserves to be particularly mentioned. Our whole loss was 11 killed and 17 or 18 wounded.

I have the honor to be, etc., etc.,

JOHN P. HUNGERFORD,
Brigadier General, *Virginia Militia*.

HON. JAMES MONROE.

The attempt at Indian Head—further down the river, and on the Maryland side—under Commodore O. H. Perry, to prevent the passage of the British fleet, ended like Porter's battle, in failure, owing to the same causes—lack of time and insufficiency of equipment and force. But it was marked by bravery and zeal, both on the part of the regulars and the militia. The failure, too, of Commodore Rodgers to burn some of the ship's of the enemy, was also the result of hurried and incomplete preparation, and certainly not of the want of enterprise and courage on the part of either the Commodore or his subordinates. The reports of both officers are interesting at least on that score; and they serve also to show that, as before remarked, the expedition of the British was characterized by an almost utter disregard of ordinary prudence.

MADISON DAVIS.

WASHINGTON, D. C.



BOOK REVIEWS

SUMERIAN ADMINISTRATIVE DOCUMENTS¹

THE latest volume of the Babylonian series of the University Museum deals with a group of tablets discovered by Doctors Peters and Haynes, at Nippur, and preserved in the Museum of the University of Pennsylvania. They are dated in the reigns of the kings of the so-called II Dynasty of Ur, about 2400-2300 B. C. They are all written in the ancient Sumerian language, and furnish valuable material for our knowledge of old Babylonian history, of the Temple administration, and of the commercial and social life that pulsated in the streets of Nippur in this pre-Abrahamic age. The author of this volume, Dr. David W. Myhrman, docent of the University of Upsala, has been at work upon the collections in the Museum by the special arrangement

¹ *Sumerian Administrative Documents Dated in the Reigns of the Kings of the Second Dynasty of Ur from the Temple Archive of Nippur*. By David W. Myhrman. The Babylonian Expedition of the University of Pennsylvania, Series A. Vol. III, part I. Edited by H. V. Hilprecht. XII-146 pages, and 70 plates of Autograph Texts and XII half-tone plates. Published by the University Museum, 1910.

with his University on two occasions, during each of which he devoted several months to copying texts, and the present volume represents in part the fruit of his labours.

In the first chapter of his introduction Myhrman has made a new attempt at settling a difficult problem in Babylonian chronology by endeavouring to determine the exact place in history of the so-called II Dynasty of Ur. He also discusses the relation of the Hammurabi dynasty to the Cassite dynasty. After reviewing the opinions of others he offers reasons for holding that the time of the great law-giver, Hammurabi, is to be placed at about 2000 B. C. In the second chapter the tablets themselves are discussed with reference to their provenience, their condition, and the seal impressions found on them. In the third chapter Myhrman gives a general survey of all the texts belonging to this period which have thus far been published. This important review will be acceptable and helpful to those working on similar tablets in the future. In the fourth chapter he discusses the subject matter of the texts, and points out that of the 1500 tablets hitherto published belonging to this period, only a score are contract tablets. Of the 171 texts presented in this volume, the 30 legal documents constitute the most valuable feature, inasmuch as they belong to the earliest contracts known. In the fifth chapter is given a complete list of the date formulas found in these texts, some of which are new, and hence valuable for historical and chronological purposes.

The sixth chapter contains the results of much labour. In it Myhrman has reconstructed the entire lists of dates of the period with which the volume deals. He has endeavoured to give every formula thus far known, with complete references to the sources. This will of necessity be used by scholars for some time to come because it is the most complete collection thus far made.

In the seventh chapter Myhrman has undertaken what might seem a hopeless task, namely the bringing into order of the old Babylonian months as well as the interpretation of the names. His discussions and collections of material will be important for future work on this difficult problem. Myhrman holds that at least 4 different lists of month names were in use practically at the same time. He also holds that it was during the period represented by his tablets that the calendar was changed. He publishes some entirely new month names, and gives new readings for others. Following this discussion he gives a useful comparative scheme of the different month names used during the period.

In the eighth chapter the author presents with commentary his transliterations and translations of 24 specimen tablets, all of which are written in Sumerian. Quite unique are the tablets which he calls "court proceedings" presenting as they do, subject matter, formulas and terms hitherto unknown. Naturally, as Myhrman has stated, many of the translations must be regarded as more or less tentative. In some instances he has given several renderings, and reasons for his conjectural interpretations.

In the following chapter all the new contributions offered by these texts are gathered together, such as new cuneiform signs, readings, terms

in general, legal terms, terms of loans, purchase and account tablets, etc. This is followed by a complete list of proper names, Sumerian and Semitic, which are contained in the texts, a large number of which are entirely new. Following this is the usual description of tablets.

Especially valuable is the system of transcription of Sumerian signs which is offered in the fourteenth chapter. This enables the scholar to determine what character his transcription represents. This is much needed and is valuable; for each scholar adopts his own system, and it is most difficult to know what characters in many instances are represented. It would be a most important gain for Assyriology if scholars generally would agree upon a uniform transcription.

In his 72 plates of texts Myhrman has faithfully endeavoured to make clear and legible copies. Apparently he has avoided shading signs where they were clear, although the surface of the clay may have been rough from exposure. He has produced excellent copies, for which scholars will be grateful. His name must be enrolled among those who are regarded as good copyists. In his discussion he has tried to avoid premature and questionable hypotheses and has honestly endeavoured to build his results upon facts. His work must be regarded as a substantial contribution to the science of Assyriology and Sumeriology, and a credit to the series in which it is published.

ALBERT T. CLAY.



A GUIDE TO THE ANTIQUITIES OF UPPER EGYPT²

GUIDES to Egypt are numerous but the continual advance in our knowledge of ancient Egypt as revealed by the various excavators is so rapid that frequent revision and in many cases complete rewriting is necessary. Mr. Arthur E. P. Weigall's *Guide to the Antiquities of Upper Egypt* covers the ground from Abydos to the frontier of the Sudan, presenting the facts as determined up to the present time. The author has had specially good opportunity to prepare such a volume as he is the Inspector-General of the Department of Antiquities of Upper Egypt under the Egyptian government. The fact that the descriptions in the book were actually written, in all but a few cases, within a "stone's throw" of the temple, tomb or other ruin described insures their accuracy.

The large number of maps and plans add greatly to the value of the work not only as a guide to the actual traveler in that region but also to those who have to do their traveling at home by means of books.

² *A Guide to the Antiquities of Upper Egypt*, from Abydos to the Sudan Frontier, by Arthur E. P. Weigall. 69 maps and plates. The Macmillan Co., N. Y., 1910. Pp. xxiii, 594. Price \$2.50 Net.

RECENT BULLETINS OF THE BUREAU OF AMERICAN ETHNOLOGY³

BULLETIN number 39 of the Bureau of American Ethnology, is a record of the Tlingit Myths and Texts made by John R. Swanton. These myths and texts were collected at Sitka and Wrangell, Alaska, in 1904. The author has collected over 100 of these myths which are given in considerable detail. At the end of the Bulletin abstracts are given of the various myths recorded at Sitka.

David I. Bushnell, Jr., in Bulletin 48 reports his observations on the remnant of the Choctaws of Bayou Lacomb near New Orleans, Louisiana. Mounds in the neighborhood indicate early occupancy of the region where these Choctaws now live. The mounds, however, do not indicate great antiquity. It is difficult to obtain the original religious and other beliefs of the tribe for they have been greatly influenced by Christianity. Nevertheless many of the old beliefs persist so that the record is an important one which becomes more difficult to obtain with each passing year.



THE WAR⁴

MOST of our histories of the Civil War come from those who either fought on the side of the North or whose natural sympathies were on that side. For this reason we are pleased to receive a short personal account of the War as seen by a Southern soldier. The author is James H. Wood who was Captain of Company "D", 37th Virginia Infantry Regiment and so is specially well qualified to write such an account. The point of view is interesting and the personal element adds not only keen interest but real historical value to the book. There is no bitterness against the North, or even the prison officials, expressed in the book. Mr. Wood was a good loser as well as a good fighter and accepted defeat in the proper spirit. He declines to air his prison discomforts and advises that the "mantle of charity" be thrown over the subject by both sides, stating, however, that he attaches no blame to the government but considers the ill treatment on both sides was due to "malignant individual soldiers or persons in petty authority."

³ Bulletin 39 of the Bureau of American Ethnology. Tlingit Myths and Texts recorded by John R. Swanton. Smithsonian Institution, 1909. Pp. 451.

Bulletin 48 of the Bureau of American Ethnology. The Choctaw of Bayou Lacomb, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana, by David I. Bushnell, Jr. Smithsonian Institution, 1909. Pp. 37 and 22 plates.

⁴ *The War—"Stonewall" Jackson, His Campaigns and Battles. The Regiments as I saw them*, by James H. Wood. Illustrated, pp. 181. The Eddy Press Corporation, Cumberland, Md.

EDITORIAL NOTES

PROFESSOR BADE TO EXPLORE HITTITE COUNTRY.—Professor William F. Bade, of the University of California is planning to organize a party to explore the country of the Hittites.

SOPHOCLES' ANTIGONE.—Sophocles' masterpiece, "Antigone" was given, 30 June, at the University of California. Great care was taken to have the production archæologically correct.

PROFESSOR SAVILLE GONE TO PERU.—Professor Marshall M. Saville, one of our consulting editors, left early in June to spend 8 months studying ethnological problems in Peru and northern Ecuador.

MAMMOTH AND RHINOCEROS REMAINS FOUND IN WICK, ENGLAND.—In November, 1909, remains of the mammoth and rhinoceros were found in excavating for the new Hackney, Wick, sewer. They were found at varying depths in the gravel overlying the blue clay.

CYLINDER CONCERNING SENNACHERIB.—An 8-sided terra cotta cylinder containing many unpublished details of the history of Sennacherib (705 B. C.—681 B. C.) has been found recently. It is almost complete, dated 694 B. C. and written on 8 sides. There are 720 lines of text. The subject is the campaign carried out in 698 B. C. and 695. It depicts Sennacherib as a great architect and far-sighted builder.

SECRETARY TO THE PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.—Mr. Archibald C. Dickie has been appointed to take the place made vacant by the recent death of George Armstrong, who has been the Secretary of the Palestine Exploration Fund for many years. Mr. Dickie will only devote a part of his time to the work of the Fund and so will be known as "Assistant Secretary."

PREHISTORIC SKELETON FROM ARIZONA.—A prehistoric skeleton is reported from near Prescott, Arizona. The bones are those of a large man with very long arms. The teeth are peculiar in being very long and sharp. The bones seemed semi-petrified and are well-preserved. The place where it was found is thought to have been a pre-historic fort.

PROFESSOR BUTLER TO EXCAVATE ANCIENT SARDIS.—Professor Howard Crosby Butler has arrived at Smyrna and will excavate ancient Sardis, 5 hours by rail from Smyrna. It is expected that from 2 to 5 years will be spent in the work. Two hundred men will be employed.

MUMMY OF RA-NEFER.—Reports from London say that the mummy of Ra-Nefer, which was found at Hendum, Egypt, in 1892, is now considered of more importance than had been supposed, for it now appears that it is 11 centuries older than any other known mummy. It dates from 3000 B. C., and presents a kind of embalming hitherto unknown.

THE ORIGIN OF THE AZTECS.—In a recent article in *Mexico Today*, Mr. T. S. Denison stated that he considers the Aztecs and kindred tribes Aryan in language and closely related to the Indo-Iranians. His conclusions are based on similarity of place-names in Persia and Mexico, on the agreement of the Mexican vocabulary with the Sanskrit of which he gives numerous examples and on the striking parallel in the Aztec and Christian religious observances.

FRAGMENT OF ANCIENT GOTHIC MANUSCRIPT.—The University of Giessen in Darmstadt recently acquired a number of papyri and parchments, including a double leaf containing part of the Gospel of Luke in Latin and Gothic. The Gothic text is from the translation made in the IV century by Ulfilas. The new document is believed to date from the early part of the V century, and would therefore be the oldest relic of Germanic speech.

ANCIENT GLASS IN HEXHAM ABBEY.—Early this year the Bishop of Newcastle, unveiled a colored window in Hexham Abbey. The window is unique by reason of its containing some glass dug up during the summer of 1909 at Corstopitum, dating from the time when the Romans occupied Britain.

NEED OF PRESERVING ANTIQUITIES IN TENNESSEE.—Miss Mary E. Stewart, of Wisconsin, has recently called attention to the importance of the mounds in Cheatham county, Tennessee, and to the indifference to them shown by the inhabitants of the state. She also reports that the State Historical Society Museum is neglected. The people of Tennessee seem to need to wake up to the desirability of preserving and protecting their antiquities, which are numerous and of great historic value. Such monuments, once destroyed, cannot be replaced.

DEATH OF GEORGE ARMSTRONG.—Mr. George Armstrong, who has been Acting Secretary of the Palestine Exploration Fund since 1887, died on January 7 of this year. He has been directly connected with research in Palestine since 1871, when he was sent out on the "First Survey Party" for Palestine under Captain Stewart of the British army. Since 1887 he has devoted himself entirely to the interests of the Palestine Exploration Fund and his faithful and efficient services will be greatly missed.

THE SIZE OF THE EARLIER PARTHENON.—Mr. B. H. Hill, director of the American School at Athens, has concluded from excavations that Professor Dörpfeld's suggested reconstruction of the building on the site

of the Parthenon which was destroyed in the Persian invasion (480 B. C.) was not satisfactory. He considers that the building was smaller than Dörpfeld's reconstruction would indicate, being only 16 by 6 columns.

MR. MACALISTER BECOMES PROFESSOR OF CELTIC ARCHAEOLOGY IN DUBLIN.—Mr. R. A. Stewart Macalister, so long engaged excavating at Gezer for the Palestine Exploration Fund, has been appointed to the professorship of Celtic Archaeology at the National University of Ireland in Dublin. Dr. Duncan Mackenzie, who has been connected with the British School of Archaeology at Athens, will be Mr. Macalister's successor in the exploration work of the Fund. A new site is to be excavated as soon as permission can be obtained.

STONE MONUMENT OF III CENTURY FROM ASIA MINOR.—At the January meeting of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, Mr. J. Graham Callander described a carved stone monument of about III century discovered by Professor T. Callander and himself in a Kurdish district southwest of Angora, Asia Minor. Among a number of designs upon it were representations of the mirror and comb, similar to the symbols so commonly sculptured on the early Christian monuments of Scotland.

BONI RESIGNED FROM COMMISSION FOR THE ZONA MONUMENTALE.—"Commendatore Boni has resigned his membership of the Commission for the Zona Monumentale because the Italian Government declines to excavate the district between the Porta Capena and San Sebastiano, but insists on quadrupling the roadway. Commendatore Boni naturally regrets a decision which means the definite abandonment of the scheme for reviving the ancient glories of the Via Appia." [Antiquarian, London.]

MOULD FOR COPY OF THE ATHENA PARTHENOS.—At the March meeting of the American Archaeological School at Athens, Professor D. M. Robinson read a paper dealing with a mould for making terra cotta statuettes found at Corinth during 1908. It represents the head and bust of the Athena Parthenos of Pheidias. It gives the ornaments on the helmet and supplements the evidence of other smaller copies. The facial expression is very attractive and probably comes nearer the original than any other known copy. Professor Robinson attributes it to the Hellenistic Age.

TO PRESERVE THE LIBRARY OF PRESIDENT HAYES.—The Ohio State Historical Society at its meeting held in Fremont, formally accepted the offer of Colonel Webb Hayes, of the Speigel Grove property, near Fremont, O., and a fire-proof building to house the library of the late President Hayes will be built on the premises as one of the conditions.

The beautiful park consists of 25 acres and it was the original intention of Colonel Hayes to donate 10 acres. Later he offered an additional 10 acres and also gave the Society a deed for the 5 acres upon which the Hayes

mansion stands. This is conditioned upon the right of the Hayes heirs and a caretaker to perpetually occupy the residence, the heirs to pay the expenses of the caretaker.

SOME DOLMENS IN FRANCE.—In a paper before the Anthropological Institute (London), on *Some Dolmens of Peculiar Types in France and Elsewhere*, Mr. A. L. Lewis drew the conclusion that the building of dolmens was not confined to one race and the building of circles to another and that no one race originated or diffused both; but that megalithic construction was a phase of culture through which many races passed, and which was developed in various ways, not only by separate races, but by different tribes, without regard to any racial differences between them.

DEATH OF CYRUS THOMAS.—The recent death of Professor Cyrus Thomas has removed one of our eminent authorities on the history of the North American Indians. He was educated as a lawyer and as a clergyman but since 1869 he devoted himself to science, first as geologist under Hayden in his survey of the western Territories. Later he became state entomologist for Illinois and in 1877 a member of the United States Entomological Commission. In 1882 he became connected with the United States Bureau of Ethnology and has written extensively on the historic and prehistoric inhabitants of North America.

FRAGMENT OF THE SERVIAN WALL LAID BARE.—A portion of the "Servian" wall at Rome has recently been made visible for a greater extent by the demolition of the Villa Spithoever on the Quirinal Hill. It is composed of smaller blocks than usual. They are almost slab-like, being one or one and a fourth feet high, of green-gray tufa, called capellaccio. This material is found in buildings of the V century B.C., as in the foundations of the temple of Castor and Pollux, of Saturn and of Apollo. Similar walling has been encountered in other parts of the wall; possibly this was the original style of the wall and the two-feet-high blocks belong to the reconstruction after the sack of Rome by the Gauls in 390 B. C.

A HITTITE BOUNDARY STONE.—There are two stone lions, probably of Hittite origin, which stand between Albistan and Darend, two towns on the border between Asia Minor and Syria. Sir William Ramsay and Mr. Hogarth considered these as marking the entrance to an edifice of some kind. But, as there are no remains of any building to be found Guillaume de Jerphanion thinks that some other explanation is necessary. By carefully studying the ground he found that the lions are on the watershed between the Tokma Su and Euphrates on the north and the Seihun on the south. As they face towards the north and are about 5 yards apart he concludes that it is more than probable that "they once stood at the two sides of the road leading from Marash and the Albistan Plain northward to Darend and the Gurun district." They now mark the dividing line between the *vilayets* of Sivas and Aleppo. The conclusion that these are old boundary stones is strengthened by the tradition, current among the native inhabitants, that these stones mark an ancient boundary.

FURTHER EXCAVATIONS OF THE "RED HILLS."—During 1908 and 1909 the "Red Hills" in Essex, England, were further investigated. In the first of the two seasons a mound near Maldon was excavated, revealing several flues and fire-floors, a kitchen-midden, pottery, animal bones and oyster shells. These are unusual finds in this class of mounds. Investigation showed that the cause was a subsequent occupation of the site by the Romano-Britons. These remains were confined to a definite region on the edge of the earlier mound, partly overlapping the original deposit of red earth. In the red earth were quantities of the objects, made of clay mixed with grass, to which the term "briquetage" has been applied. A human skeleton was found at the base of the original deposit. Few domestic relics were present, only a few fragments of late Celtic pottery.

In 1909 work was carried on in the marshes near Canewdon, where there is a group of small mounds, only 50 to 80 ft. in diameter. They are close together and not arranged on the line of the water's edge. This is unusual. The largest of this group was excavated, but the results were disappointing, as the mound was composed of burnt earth, with hardly any relics—a few pieces of "briquetage" and fragments of late Celtic pottery. There was nothing to show the nature of the industry which produced this mass of burnt material.

RESTORATION OF PALÆOLITHIC MAN.—Richard Swann Lull, of the Peabody Museum at Yale, has attempted to restore in plastic form the type of mankind living in Europe during the palæolithic period. The figure is life-size. The restoration is only tentative and may be changed to meet the requirements of further discoveries and opinions of experts. His model is based largely upon the "Man of Spy No. 1," one of the two specimens found at Spy in Belgium. The illustrations of the remains of man found at Krapina, in Croatia, were also used, together with other measurements. Professor Lull conceives *Homo primigenius* as low in stature, about 5 ft. 3 in. tall, but of great physical power. The torso he represents as clean-cut and athletic, similar to the North American Indian's. He indicates great strength in the upper portion of the trunk and arms to compensate for the lack of tools and weapons.

He represents the knees as somewhat flexed, as the curved thigh-bones would indicate, and the trunk as only partially erect, for the inward curves of the backbone are but feebly developed. The shin is short, and the great toe somewhat off-set.

The eyes are deep-set; the forehead low and flat; the nasal bridge broad and concave; the jaws somewhat prognathous. The lower jaw is deep and powerful, but lacks the prominent chin of modern man. The contour of the jaw is based upon the actual measurement of one of the Krapina specimens.

CAUSEWAY ACROSS THE DEAD SEA.—Mr. A. Forder has recently examined the evidence of an ancient causeway that is reported to have once connected Lisân with the west shore of the Dead Sea. From his observations and enquiries he concludes that the "ancient road and causeway ran almost direct from the outlet of the Wady Kerak across to the Wady Im-

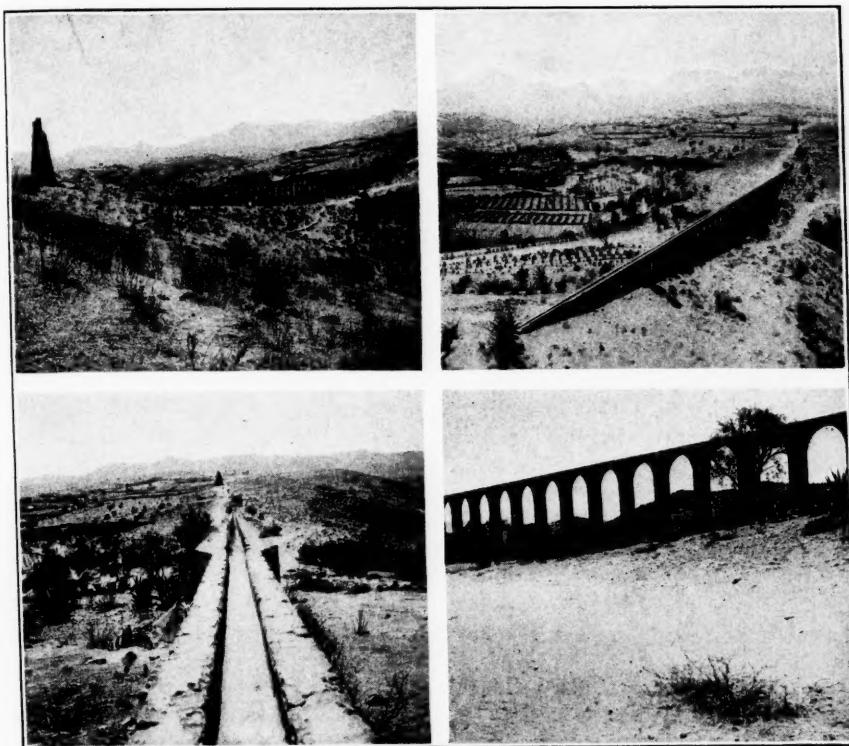
bughgugh: this is what might be expected, for an abundant supply of cold clear water is found in both these valleys, and, in such a region, both man and beast would need such provision." Although there is no sign of the crossing now, he found many old Arabs who remembered when the water was 6 or more feet lower than it is now and so shallow at this point that camels and mules were driven across through the water while sheep, goats and men crossed on the causeway. His Arab guide told him "that when the hair first appeared on his face, it [the place where the causeway existed] was so narrow that the people of his tribe used to sit on the edge of the Lisan and parley with Arabs from the west as to the return of cattle that had been stolen by one or the other of the parties." He said that if he had a boat he could row out on the Sea directly over the old causeway.

ROMAN CAMP NEAR NUMANTIA, SPAIN.—During 1909, Professor Adolf Schulten excavated a large Roman camp about 4 miles east of Numantia, Spain. He finds that the fortification was built by the Consul Fulvius Nobilior in 153 B. C. and that the catastrophe of Mancinus took place here. The fortifications are well preserved, 2300 ft. long by 1000 ft. broad (700 m. by 300 m.) and contained barrack accommodation for a legion and auxiliaries. The walls, of local limestone held together by clay, are nearly 3 ft. thick with towers every 100 or 140 feet. There were 5 gates guarded with towers. All the material parts of a Roman field-fortress are traceable. Rows of annexed buildings stretched to the west and south-east of the main camp to a length of 1860 yards (1700 m.). The orientation of the buildings is east facing the quarter where the sun rises at the end of August, which agrees with the statement of Appian that the camp was begun 3 days after the defeat at the battle of Vulcanalia, 26 August, 153 B. C. On a neighboring hill remains of a second larger and later camp were found which was 875 yards by 550 yards (800 m. by 500 m.). It consisted of a circuit of walls flanked by towers and bastions, but without barracks.



AN OLD COLONIAL AQUEDUCT

Some 15 kilometers from the City of Mexico, just beyond the railway station of San Bartolo Naucalpam, is the shrine of Nuestra Señora de los Remedios, our Lady of Succour, situated on the hill of Totoltepec. A short distance from the church is a stone aqueduct of some 46 arches which, presumably, was intended to carry water from a reservoir in the hills to the west across a deep ravine. This structure dates back to the early colonial days of Mexico and is of most admirable construction. The arches are $2\frac{1}{2}$ meters in the clear and at the deepest part of the ravine about 25 meters high. At either end are stand pipes, also of masonry and as solidly constructed as the arches, about 18 meters high, through the center of which from base to top runs a glazed earthen tube 12 centimeters in diameter. The channel in the aqueduct is 45 centimeters wide by 30 deep. It was probably the intention of the builders to cover this over, thinking



DIFFERENT VIEWS OF THE OLD AQUEDUCT NEAR THE CITY OF MEXICO

that they could thus bring the water across the ravine; but they had nothing strong enough to withstand the pressure, so the work went for naught.

The top of the standpipes is reached within by a *caracol*, or spiral stairway; the stones forming the tread of the steps are very much worn, bearing witness to their great age. These towers are built in courses, their diameter diminishing with the height. There are 7 of these courses, the diameter of the lowest being about 5 meters and of the top something less than 1 meter. The height of the 4 lower courses is 2 meters each and of the balance about $3\frac{1}{2}$ meters each.

A. L. VAN ANTWERP.



DEATH OF COLONEL C. R. CONDER.—In the death of Colonel C. R. Conder, R. E., LL.D., which occurred on 16 February of this year, the Palestine Exploration Fund lost another of its active members. He has been connected with Palestine research for many years, having taken up his work there shortly after Mr. Armstrong reached Palestine, on the "First Survey of Palestine."

DEATH OF DR. J. H. HAYNES.—After more than a year of ill-health, Dr. J. H. Haynes died at his home in North Adams, Mass., on 29 June, 1910. He had a remarkably varied career and is entitled to more credit than he has received for his archaeological work. Dr. Haynes was born in Rowe, Mass., 27 January, 1849, and when he was 21 years of age, came over the mountain dragging his personal belongings on a hand sled behind him, to attend Drury High School. He was graduated from there and from Williams College in 1876, and taught in several towns in the western part of his native State. An offer from W. J. Stillman, correspondent of the London *Times*, to accompany him on an expedition to Crete resulted in his leaving the profession of a teacher and branching into what became his life work. He went with the American expedition to Assos and was for three years tutor in Roberts College, Constantinople.

In 1884 Dr. Haynes went as manager of the Wolfe expedition to Babylonia, which remained out a year, and then went to the Central Turkey College at Amtal, where he remained as a teacher and treasurer of the institution until 1888. His training was by this time valuable to such an expedition as went out under the direction of the University of Pennsylvania in 1888, and he accompanied this and the next expedition as business manager, assuming charge as director of the expeditions of '92 and '98. During the time between the second and third expeditions Dr. Haynes was United States Consul to Bagdad.

It was upon his notes and his photographs that the world depended for its knowledge of this important exploratory work. He was the first man to stay through the Babylonian summer at work in the trenches by day and by night developing photographs in his "mud castle" or carefully packing and guarding the thousands of utensils and tablets that were recovered under his direction.

He found the oldest arch known to the world, about 4,000 B. C.; literary records of the life of 6,000 years ago, school exercises, outline maps, logarithm tables, water conduits, pottery, business accounts, and "Bible" stories that dated back of the Hebrew civilization. For three years during the fourth expedition, with the exception of a few months, Haynes lived alone in that country without seeing a white face in the midst of warlike tribes who warred among themselves, deserting the excavation trenches for the war dance and often threatening his life.

His modest statement a few weeks previous to his death, in which he claimed the credit that he so well deserved in connection with the finding of the so-called "temple library" at Nippur, was characteristic of his modesty and his unselfishness. He sunk his own glory in his earnest devotion to the cause of archaeology in Babylonia.



